CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating Oxygen, comprising:
 - a vessel containing a heat absorbing salt;
- a humidifier at least configured to be in communication with the vessel for the transfer of fluid directly or indirectly between the humidifier and vessel; and
 - an aqueous, Oxygen producing solution contained in the vessel.
- 2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the aqueous, Oxygen producing solution further comprises a reactant dissolved in water, the reactant selected from the group consisting of Sodium Percarbonate (2Na₂CO₃•3H₂O₂) or Sodium Perborate (NaBHO₃).
- 3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1 or 2, wherein the aqueous, Oxygen producing solution further comprises a catalyst, wherein the catalyst is at least non-toxic, at least not an environmental hazard, at least not an explosive hazard, at least not a fire hazard, and at least having a long shelf-life.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the aqueous, Oxygen producing solution further comprises a catalyst comprising Manganese Dioxide (MnO₂).
- 5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 3, wherein the catalyst further comprises a mixture of Manganese Dioxide (MnO₂) and Sodium Carbonate (Na₂CO₃).

- 6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the aqueous, Oxygen producing solution further comprises a catalyst, and wherein the catalyst further comprises a metal oxide.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 3, wherein the catalyst further comprises a metal oxide.
- 8. (Canceled)
- 9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the apparatus further comprises a fluid transfer member at least configured to allow the transfer of fluid between the vessel and the humidifier.
- 10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating Oxygen, comprising:
- a vessel <u>containing a heat absorbing salt</u>, the <u>vessel configured</u> for at least containing an aqueous reaction;
 - a humidifier at least configured to be in fluid communication with the vessel; and
- a water-soluble reactant to at least be used as an Oxygen producing reactant in the aqueous reaction.
- 11. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the water-soluble reactant further comprises a reactant selected from the group consisting of Sodium Percarbonate (2Na₂CO₃•3H₂O₂) or Sodium Perborate (NaBHO₃) dissolved in water.

- 12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 10 or 11, wherein the apparatus further comprises a catalyst, wherein the catalyst is at least non-toxic, at least not an environmental hazard, at least not an explosive hazard, at least not a fire hazard, and at least having long shelf-life.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the apparatus further comprises a catalyst comprising Manganese Dioxide (MnO₂).
- 14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein the catalyst comprises a mixture of Manganese Dioxide (MnO₂) and Sodium Carbonate (Na₂CO₃).
- 15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the apparatus further comprises a catalyst comprising a metal oxide.
- 16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein the catalyst further comprises a metal oxide.
- 17. (Canceled)
- 18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the apparatus further comprises a duct member at least configured to transport fluid along at least a portion of a path directly or indirectly extending between the vessel and the humidifier.

- 19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating Oxygen, comprising:
- a vessel <u>containing a heat absorbing salt</u>, the <u>vessel configured</u> to at least contain an aqueous reaction;
 - a humidifier at least configured to be in fluid communication with the vessel;
 - a water-soluble powder or liquid at least to be used as a reactant in the aqueous reaction; and a catalyst.
- 20. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein the water-soluble powder or liquid further comprises a reactant selected from the group consisting of Sodium Percarbonate (2Na₂CO₃•3H₂O₂) or Sodium Perborate (NaBHO₃) dissolved in water.
- 21. (Canceled).
- 22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein the catalyst comprises Manganese Dioxide (MnO₂).
- 23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the catalyst comprises a mixture of Manganese Dioxide (MnO₂) and Sodium Carbonate (Na₂CO₃).
- 24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein the catalyst comprises a metal oxide.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 20, wherein the catalyst comprises a metal oxide.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein the apparatus further comprises a fluid conveyance system at least configured to transport fluid along at least a portion of a path extending between the vessel and the humidifier.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an Oxygen producing generator, comprising:

filling a vessel with water, wherein the vessel is in fluid communication with a humidifier;

dissolving in at least a portion of the water a water-soluble powder or liquid at least used as
a Oxygen producing reactant, thereby producing a solution generating Oxygen;

inserting a heat absorbing salt into the vessel; and directing at least a portion of the Oxygen within the vessel to the humidifier.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:

introducing a catalyst into at least a portion of the solution after the water-soluble powder is dissolved, wherein the catalyst is at least non-toxic, at least not an environmental hazard, at least not an explosive hazard, at least not a fire hazard, and at least having a long shelf-life.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein the method further comprises:

introducing a catalyst into at least a portion of the solution simultaneously with the watersoluble powder, wherein the catalyst is at least non-toxic, at least not an environmental hazard, at least configured not an explosive hazard, at least not a fire hazard, and at least having long shelf-life.

- 31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the catalyst comprises Sodium Carbonate (Na₂CO₃).
- 32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 13, wherein the catalyst comprises Sodium Carbonate (Na₂CO₃).
- 33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the catalyst further comprises Sodium Carbonate (Na₂CO₃).
- 34. (New) An apparatus for generating Oxygen, comprising:
 - a vessel containing a heat absorbing salt; and an aqueous, Oxygen producing solution contained in the vessel.
- 35. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the aqueous, Oxygen producing solution further comprises a reactant dissolved in water, the reactant selected from the group consisting of Sodium Percarbonate (2Na₂CO₃•3H₂O₂) or Sodium Perborate (NaBHO₃).
- 36. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the aqueous, Oxygen producing solution further comprises a catalyst comprising Manganese Dioxide (MnO₂).
- 37. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the catalyst further comprises Sodium Carbonate (Na₂CO₃).

- 38. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the catalyst further comprises a mixture of Manganese Dioxide (MnO₂) and Sodium Carbonate (Na₂CO₃).
- 39. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the aqueous, Oxygen producing solution further comprises a catalyst, and wherein the catalyst further comprises a metal oxide.
- 40. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the heat absorbing salt comprises a hydrated salt.
- 41. (New) The apparatus of Claim 40, wherein the hydrated salt comprises Sodium-based compound.
- 42. (New) The apparatus of Claim 34, wherein the heat absorbing salt is a Sodium-based compound.